
Welcome to Hon. J. A. Chapleau at Montreal on his
return from Europe, 24th of April, 1889,
and his Address in reply.

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HON. J. A. CHAPLEAU.

WELCOMED AT MONTREAL ON HIS RETURN FROM EUROPE

24TH OF APRIL, 1889.

HIS ADDRESS IN REPLY.

THE POLITICAL POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF CANADIANS.



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WELCOME TO MR. CHAPLEAU.

(From Montreal Gazette, April 25th.)

The welcome which Hon. J. A. Chapleau received on his arrival in Montreal last night on his return from Europe was one of which any statesman might have felt proud. Long before the train was due, the Bonaventure depot was crowded with people, including many of the most prominent citizens of Montreal and district. Among these were: Alderman Jeannotte, president of the committee, Mr. Richard White, vice-president, Mr. Conrad Pelletier, secretary, Mr. Louis Allard, treasurer, Messrs. L. Chevalier and L. A. Drapeau, members of the committee; also Messrs. Wm. Owens, M.P.P., P. E. Leblanc, M.P.P., A. Lapointe, M.P.P., Ald. J. M. Dufresne, Thompson, Villeneuve, Rolland, P. Dubuc and Savignac, ex-Ald. Beauchamp, Messrs. S. Pagnuelo, E. St. Louis, C. J. Doherty, M. Brassard, G. Nero, A. Branchaud, M. J. F. Quinn, Edward Murphy, A. Delfosse, president of the Letellier club, P. H. Hebert, E. Lavigne, B. Tansey, J. J. Cree, ex-councillor of St. Gabriel, F. Thibault, S. H. Foster and David Sinclair, and hundreds of others. The following delegates from the country districts were also present: Messrs. J. A. Renaud, advocate, of Sorel, A. A. Taillon, mayor of Sorel, L. G. Macdonald, Alex. Macdonald, Hon. Judge Chariand, A. D. Girard, G. Dorion, Henderson Black, Jules Quesnel, Sr., M. Guillet, E. R. Smith, H. R. Smith, Jacques Dupuy, J. Bte. Dubois, D. Levi, O. N. E. Boucher, Dr. L. J. H. Roy, Dr. L. A. Trudeau, C. R. Cousins, Jules Quesnel, Jr., E. McConkey, S. Ramsay, L. G. Macdonald, J. Hevey, Robert Donaghy, Arcade Decelles, N. D. Douglass, Jos. Tremblay, B. Wilkinson, George Wilkinson, C. Meunier, C. O. Gervais, Jas. Labelle, Paul Labelle, of St. Johns; Jos. Lavoie, J. B. H. Beauregard, Jacques Mercier, Iberville; J. H. Leclair, warden county of Terrebonne; P. Simard and N. Smith, of St. Jerome; A. J. H. St. Denis, St. Clet; C. Corbeil, Sault-au-Recollet; Dr. J. S. Archam-

bault, A. Chauvin, J. Lauzon, A. Masson, P. E. C. Joubert, of Terrebonne; P. Lamoureux, of Chambly; H. B. Lafleur, of St. Adele; E. Rodier, of St. Jerome; F. O. Lamarche, mayor of Berthier; M. McDonald, warden, county of Bagot; D. Denis, of St. Simon; Z. Boyer, secretary, association county of Beauharnois, Valleyfield; E. Leblanc, L'Epiphanie; Duncan Macdonald, Charles Arpin, provisional mayor of St. Johns, C. R. Smith, St. Johns News, I. B. Futvoye, J. A. Lomme, R. C. Montgomerie, Dr. L. H. Roy, Dr. L. A. Trudeau, A. Gervais, Isaac Coote, E. Poutre, A. Decelles, J. B. Decelles, A. Camaraire, J. Simard, D. Godin, J. Dion, S. Vaughan, of St. Johns, Capt. Normandeau, of L'Assomption, P. E. Roy and A. Roy, of St. Pie, L. A. Choquet, of St. Hyacinthe, and many others.

The train which was due at 8.30 p.m. did not arrive till nearly 9 o'clock, and as the Secretary of State and Madame Chapleau stepped from the parlor car, the crowd sent up three rousing cheers, and those who were personally acquainted with Mr. Chapleau pressed forward to tender him their congratulations on his safe return. So great was the press that the friends of Mr. Chapleau had to gather around him to keep off the crowd. It was with the greatest difficulty that he could make his way out of the depot to a carriage drawn by four handsome horses which was waiting for him outside. Madame Chapleau was escorted by Ald. Jeannotte, and having taken their seats in the carriage they proceeded slowly to the St. Lawrence hall, followed by a large crowd. The carriage drew up at the Craig street entrance, and Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Chapleau were escorted to the mess room, at the upper end of which a platform had been erected. They were accompanied to the platform by Ald. Jeannotte, Mr. Richard White and Mr. Conrad Pelletier, representing the committee of organization. Ald. Jeannotte read the following address, and at the close, Mr. Pelletier presented Madame Chapleau with

a bouquet amid the cheers of the crowd—

To the Hon. J. A. Chapleau, Secretary of State:

HONORABLE SIR,—Our legitimate impatience on the event of your return was sure to manifest itself by a most enthusiastic demonstration on your arrival. The loud clamors of the people, rushing joyously from all directions, were all emphatically to mark the heartiness of their welcome, and thousands of hearts beating in unison would have testified to the general admiration for and gratitude and devotion to you.

A deplorable event, the death of one of your distinguished colleagues, the Hon. Mr. Pope, has made a mournful change in the programme marked out. The sentiment of enthusiasm must give way to a sentiment of propriety; the joyous airs that were to greet you to-day would have been an irony on the lamentations of yesterday; and we, the soldiers, would certainly fear to have been disowned by our chief.

The handful of friends, free as their speech, warm as their sentiments, a few words, the echo of our souls and our hearts, that is what we must content ourselves with, that is what we ask you to accept.

Admiration and gratitude have drawn us towards you; devotion keeps us inseparably attached to you.

The services that you have rendered your country are written on every page of our history for the past twenty-five years, are related on every hearth, and will form part of the traditions of the nation.

During the last quarter of a century of our political history, the first of our struggles, you were almost alone.

Your career is like an epic poem in which we contemplate you with pride as the hero that claims all hearts.

Let us cite some facts: Even in 1859, in the election of the brilliant colleague of Sir George Cartier, the Hon. Louis Siméon Morin, you made with éclat your first attempt, gaining at the start the sympathies of the county which had elected Lafontaine and Antoine Norbert Morin.

Entering into the career since the first days of the constitution which gave us new life, this constitution has never had an abler defender or a more eloquent voice to do it honor, or an arm more valiant and strong to sustain and protect it.

We recall that it was you who protected the people against the tyrannous usurpation of power at Quebec, and formed this strong group which brought us the signal victory of the 17th September, 1878—a victory which was the overthrow of the Mackenzie Government and its policy, which was conspicuous for persistent hostility to our province.

We bear in mind that a year later, in 1879, you became Premier of Quebec, changing the minority that you commanded into a Government for active work.

We recall that later still you carried, on the 2nd of December, 1881, fifty-two counties out of sixty-five, enabling also the Conservative party at Ottawa to gather in the fruits of this victory, in the month of the following June, 1882.

Is this not enough to justify not only the enthusiasm of a group of friends, but also of the whole nation? We believe it is.

Medical skill and a gentle climate have bestowed their favors upon you. You return to us with renewed vigor. May you preserve it a long time; all your friends expect your services, and the country demands it loudly.

We remember that since your entry into the Federal Cabinet you have always supported with all the resources you possessed, as faithfully as effectually, the rights and autonomy of the province.

We have in mind that at the time of the last federal elections the unfortunate and blind enthusiasm attending the Riel affair was broken when it encountered the district of Montreal where you commanded.

Beloved chief of the district of Montreal, may that newly gained strength serve to assure discipline during peace and victory in time of contest, and to preserve at the head of the country the Conservative party, which has contributed so much to its development and prosperity.

Be pleased, sir, to accept this feeble expression of the high consideration that we entertain for you.

Be good enough, madam, to accept a large share of that consideration; you who are the worthy companion of him whom we would honor.

Our good wishes and our affections are yours as well as his.

On behalf of the committee of citizens. (Signed) H. Jeannotte, president; R. White, C. J. Doherty and S. Lachapelle, vice-presidents; Conrad Pelletier, Beaumont Joubert, secretaries.

MR. CHAPLEAU'S REPLY.

Hon. Mr. Chapleau, on rising to reply, was received with immense enthusiasm.

When the cheers had subsided, he said:—

Gentlemen,—An ancient adage, which is no less true than old, tells us that there is nothing on earth so fair or so good as the land of one's birth. Indeed, when I look into my heart, I can find no words better than those just cited with which to thank you, to express all that I feel at this moment. Let me premise, however, that I do not merit the flattering language in which you have addressed me; its only excuse is the great affection that you have always testified towards me. I thank you for your kind words, because they impose upon me the duty of deserving them in the future. Again and again will I repeat them to myself, so that I may be sustained in the difficult task of being worthy of such praise. You recall the days that are gone, and honor me for my early combats. I thank you, gentlemen. For my own part, I was not thinking of them. The man who engages in a struggle, like the ploughman in the Gospel, must never measure his work by the task accomplished. It is the furrow that remains to be traced that should alone animate him to fresh exertion. It is not

a glory—any more than it is a fault—to have lived long enough to have one's services—like good wines—made more valuable by age.

THE LATE MR. POPE.

1859! Few of the heads which in that year rose above the planks of the hustings have escaped the planks which never tremble at the noise of the crowd. He, of whom death has just robbed us, was one of the rare survivors of the struggles of that distant day. A sturdy toiler in the ranks of the Conservative host was that descendant of United Empire Loyalists! Whatever may have been his faults (and who is faultless?) history will record that he was a model of political fidelity, a soldier whom no struggle, no self sacrifice could weary. A character strongly marked was his, a will that neither danger nor obstacles could daunt. Two years ago, as I was urging him to consult the princes of modern science, so as to get control of the grave malady which has since borne him to his grave, and recommended the rest and change of climate that he needed, he said: "Ah! I am too accustomed to the harness, in which I hope to end my days, to efface myself in countries that have no attraction for me." You have spoken, gentlemen, of the teachings that I have given to my fellow-citizens in the course of my career, and of the beneficent effect of sound doctrines. I have but followed the traditions of our statesmen, of those who inscribed on our national banners the words, "Our institutions, our language, our laws." Yes, I have always preached as I have always believed, that the first duty of the public man was to inculcate on the public that sound doctrines of morality and religion were more important for its greatness and preservation than all the philosophic and social theories of the most ingenious thinkers. A nation must have firm convictions; nor, gentlemen, when I assert that faith alone renders nations great, am I preaching a sermon. No. I am simply giving expression to an acknowledged truth of political science. The

PEOPLE THAT DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD

do not believe in virtue; a nation that does not believe in the principle of authority, does not believe in justice. The interest of the passions and the law of the strongest become in those circumstances the sole directing forces of humanity, and those blind forces lead irresist-

tibly to social chaos and revolution. Thank God, in our country the condition of moral life is more reassuring. The religious and moral sense of Canada is the admiration of the outside world. The spirit of order and the good understanding that prevail here are a surprise to the statesmen of Europe who have become acquainted with the political conditions of this young country formed of elements so diverse. Differences of race, of language and of creed ought, with us, to have no other effect than that which in a landscape is produced by valleys and ravines, rocks and hills—an effect picturesque and imposing in the variety and unexpectedness of its features. Such was the comparison which the contemplation of our harmonious diversity suggested to one of the most eloquent of our governors, Lord Dufferin, and the metaphor is one which it is in our power to justify. A wise mutual tolerance, with a legitimate rivalry, would suffice to assure this happy and beneficent harmony among the various groups of the confederation. The Canadian Parliament has just given a fine

EXAMPLE OF THAT SPIRIT OF MODERATION

in a debate which will remain celebrated in our parliamentary annals, a debate from which prejudices, animosities, vengeance, and reprisals might, as from a crucible of boiling metal, have issued forth to spread desolation and ruin over all the land, were it not for the ability, prudence and firmness of our patriotic statesmen. It was, in truth, a stirring episode in our history, where we saw a great danger arise out of the mere unskilful drafting of a law, otherwise desirable, and which furnished the hopeful spectacle of two great parties, strongly opposed on economic questions, unite without previous understanding in order to prevent a conflict which would have been of evil omen for the nation. In that debate a good deal was said of the rights of the minority. I must avow that I have never quite appreciated these terms—the rights of the minority. In a country constituted as ours is, minorities deserve to be treated with consideration. But they have no other rights than those which they have in common with the majority. We, the French-Canadians, are the minority in the Dominion. It would be an exaggeration to claim for us any special rights. When a section sets itself up as a minority, it tends to gravitate insensibly towards a state of faction, and factions, it

should be remembered, live only on favors or exactions. No, gentlemen, what we should claim is the enjoyment of those rights that belong, by the same legal title, to all the citizens of a great country, to all the members of the same nation. On that ground we can alone be strong, owing nothing either to favor or to compassion. That, it seems to me, is the sentiment of dignity that we should inculcate on the people; that is the sentiment that should animate with its inherent worth and force the men who hold the reins of power. As I had occasion to say once before, it is not by favoritism that the lasting confidence of a free people can be secured. It is by firmness of conviction, by independence of character, by energy in the affirming and vindicating their liberties and public rights that the heads of a people win the popular confidence and consolidate their power. It is not to gods that sit majestic in their gilt niches, and that seek adoration in their silent immobility, that the people of the nineteenth century offer worship. Those who win their veneration are generous, bold, active and fruitful intelligences. And in a young country like ours there is a practically boundless field for the exercise of these grand civic virtues. Let no one say that there is no need for vigilance, for seeing that our arms are well furnished and well sharpened, for keeping our powder dry; that tranquillity reigns everywhere, and all is going on securely and that every one may sleep in peace. Certainly we have reason to felicitate ourselves on our progress, on our tranquillity, on the reign of order which permits us to labor with despatch at the great edifice of the nation. A good deal has been achieved, but much still remains to be accomplished. It may be that we have been resting on our oars too idly, basing our confidence on our past gains. But, as the adage says, eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. It is also the only guarantee of progress and success. Vigilance and labor unceasing—and that labor, we must find it in

THE SPHERE OF POLITICS.

There alone, notwithstanding what has been said of its baneful results, must we look for a fruitful harvest. But the policy to which we yield our faith must have solidity and vigor, and again to have those qualifications, it must be assured of your confidence and support. The confidence of the people, of the true people—not those noisy sympathies that receive or await their re-

ward—is the essential principle of that political strength which produces great results. That confidence should be given deliberately, with full knowledge that it is deserved, and it should not be withdrawn through mere caprice. In politics, as in housekeeping, frequent movements are as bad as a fire. Having found a suitable home, there abide. Your furniture will be the gainer. But confidence must be rational, not blind. Keep an eye on your public men. Do not fear to remonstrate, remembering at the same time that too many singers at the lectern tend to confuse the anthems, too many hands on the rudder may cause the compass to be slighted. What horizons, my friends, are opening up before us! What resources for the living strength of the nation are disclosed when we survey this vast domain, that Providence has placed at the disposal of our activity and ambition! One hope especially fills me with pride, when I think of a country that I have just quitted. It is the vivid faith of our population, that faith which begets respect for authority, the sentiment of dignity, the law of order.

I HAVE JUST LEFT FRANCE, that country so long the fairest, grandest, most glorious in the world; that country which was our cradle; that country which we love as one loves that which has given him being, with remembrance for all glories, with pardon for all failings. That country is still the most beautiful, but it is no longer the greatest or the most glorious. Its greatness and glory have disappeared with its faith, as in those doomed lands of which Tacitus wrote: The gods have disappeared. Its policy which formerly governed Europe excites to-day only the contempt of its good citizens and the derision of foreign nations. What is of special interest to us is that in France just now Canada is a good deal talked of. They speak of our future, of the place that we will occupy in the sisterhood of nations when our hour of emancipation arrives. They discuss our relations to Imperial federation, annexation, independence, and they justify these discussions on the ground that it is necessary to prepare for the time when the course of human development will bring about the crisis in our destiny. But we may be assured that it is not these discussions, these projects, these constitutions that will change the hour or the form of development.

WHEN THE GRAIN IS RIPE

it does not take measures to escape from its envelope and ask the wind to bear it to the soil where it will recommence its germination. The new hatched chick does not reflect on the strength of its bony system and the thickness of its plumage. It breaks its shell and dances gaily its first steps in the sunshine. The chrysalis falls of itself from off the butterfly which soars away to kiss the flowers. In the same manner nations awake to life when the time comes for them to break the shell. The community that labors for its healthy growth, for the elevation of its moral and material stature, is the one that advances most surely towards emancipation, towards independence. When it feels itself strong, when it feels itself ready, its instinct tells it to go alone and set out in confidence. All the better then for those prudent men who shall have understood the situation, being ready with their aid and guidance. Since it began its life, over two centuries and a half ago, our country has nobly fulfilled its destiny; Providence has watched over its days in calm as in storm; but Providence helps those that help themselves, and Canada has offered no exception to the rule. Not without effort has Canada preserved her character, maintained her liberties. Let her continue in those fair traditions. Now that she is advancing towards maturity, in the future as in the past, the people will recognize the men who will know how to guide the nation under its new conditions. It must resist the seductions that lie in wait for it at that stage of its career, as it made head against the encroachments that assailed its infancy and youth. From another standpoint, if our politicians have only to formulate regimes or constitutions in advance, their role in the country is no less grand, important and beset with difficulty. They have successfully taught the people the lessons of industry, loyalty, submission, confidence. They have taught them to be sufficient to themselves. To these precepts they must add the secret of profiting by progress accomplished, a rational sense of strength and dignity, the art of directing, of ruling their own destiny, and, above all, that profound patriotism which comprehends the grand task of creating a new nationality, of bringing to the birth a people who, with lofty front, with assured regard and firm heart can set foot as a sovereign on the soil that belongs

to it, and for which it sees in the distance the promise of a grand empire.

IN OLD EUROPE,

whence I have just come, and where I have followed with interest the movement of opinion, there seems to be a fear that we are being drawn within the fascination of the neighboring republic, that our tendency is towards absorption by the United States. To those who spoke to me of such tendency, I replied that affection, self-love and interest stood as a barrier against it; that, in addition to prejudices of race and religion there had developed in Canada a national feeling which bound together a community apparently so heterogeneous; and I was happy to be able to add that the progress accomplished, during the twenty-one years of Confederation, and especially during the last decade made the

TITLE OF CANADIAN CITIZEN

a designation of justifiable and honest pride, both for those who spoke French and those who spoke English. And what I said to my friends in Europe I repeat here on my native soil: the attitude of our powerful neighbor has nothing that need alarm us. Let their prosperity serve as an example to us; but let it not seduce us. Nay, their colossal power is to us an element of security. As for forced annexation, it would be in contradiction to all the political traditions of America; it would be a violent denial of the very principle that gave birth to the Republic. As for annexation by the reduction of material advantages, the very strongest sentiment that sways both communities and individuals—that of self-preservation—is opposed to it. The advantages offered would not compensate for the interests lost, without counting the sacrifice of honor, which surely is of some weight with us. I am not, indeed, of those who reproach with disloyalty the promoters of commercial union. But I sincerely believe that they are deceived and that their schemes are dangerous to the real interests of our country. As for gaining those ends by dishonest methods, the people may be trusted on that point if the attempt were made, whatever example a few politicians might set. The conscience and honor of a nation are not to be bought. Besides, why should we not have

OUR MANIFEST DESTINY

in this western hemisphere? Why, in the consort of peoples and empires should we not have our distinct part to play? Have

we not in the stirring pages of our history all the prophetic signs that foretell great destinies? In that triumph at Yorktown which was the fertilizing ray of American liberty do we not find the glory shared between the two races of which our own nation is composed? The Mississippi need not be jealous of the St. Lawrence. Each of those kingly streams may bear on its breast the treasures of empires richer than the whole East. The valleys and peaks of the Rocky mountains may suffice for the echoed acclamations of two hundred millions of men; the soil and the sky of this vast continent are sufficient for the progress, the glory, the liberty of us all. In the period of prodigious development through which we are passing, three grand questions are imposed on the patriotism of our citizens, on the solicitude of our rulers: the industrial movement, implying the study and amelioration of the relations between capital and labor; the speedy settlement of the vast domain that a wise policy has placed at our disposal, and the extension of our commerce abroad. Thanks to the National Policy, our industry has been created and is an established fact. In some cases it may be that it has anticipated or transcended the wants and capacities of our market. When will it be prudent to modify our fiscal policy? The example of our neighbors may on this point serve as a guide, at least until the time when excessive surpluses in the revenue would menace the economic bases of the monetary market, a danger which as yet is not imminent. But if industry prospers, the question of the workingmen is sure to come to the front. I am, as you know, one of those who believe in the lawfulness of

THE LABOR MOVEMENT,
who believe in the elevation of the masses in the economy of society, who believe in the improvement of the relations between capital and labor as a result greatly to be desired. I also believe that after the groping in the dark which is inevitable at the outset of all great social reforms destined to modify profoundly an order of things that has come into existence in the course of centuries, we are nearer than is generally supposed to the solution of the problem. But I also believe that, as in great physical experiments, absolute precision in movements and measures is necessary to attain the due result so that the least inconsiderate shock, the least ex-

aggeration, may compromise and confuse a question so delicate as that of labor in the fabric of society. I would say to the people, therefore, (and my devotion to their interests is equally free from pretence and from weakness), that religion, the only true moderator of human ambitions, is the necessary mediator in this great industrial revolution for which preparations are with such ardor being made. The settlement of the public domain by colonization and immigration, has not, perhaps, had so rapid a development as the efforts of the Government in that direction would justify us to expect. What is the cause of this comparative slowness? It is true that great works, works that are to last, have always been laborious and slow. But there is no reason to reject the sacrifices that have been made or to decline making fresh ones. Nor must the Government lose sight of the fact that the older provinces also form part of the public domain, and that enterprises for attracting thither a larger population than they are yet favored with are worthy of attention and support. The

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE
offers to commerce advantages which make it the outlet of a large proportion of the grain trade of the Northwest. The Government has made provision for every eventuality by the works of colonization which it has pushed forward with increasing energy. Its sacrifices have not been without hope of immediate compensation when the question at stake was the fitting of our harbors to receive, shelter, and repair vessels of highest tonnage. Millions have not been counted when it was necessary to construct great lines of railway, those valiant pioneers of Canadian commerce. The Grand Trunk opened the market, others followed the example until the day when the country seemed determined to play its last card, as it were, to risk its last shilling, for the construction of the colossus with extended arms that touches both oceans. In Europe the impression seems to prevail that we are going too fast in this direction, that our enterprises are in advance of the development of the resources that should foster such railways, and that the credit of the country may be affected by soliciting capital that must for a time remain unproductive. But those fears are exaggerated. There may, here and there, be a case of disappointed hope, but, in the main, these undertakings will prove remunerative.

It must not be forgotten that if we owe respect to capital, which looks for its dividends, we also owe fostering care to the thousands of vigorous arms that are busy in our forests, in our mining regions, awaiting the advent of the locomotive to engage in a work doubly remunerative, inasmuch as it develops new resources and retains in the country robust sons who would otherwise leave it to enrich the stranger's land. I am one of those who believe that money spent on railways is a capital the revenue of which, the more tardy it is, is sure to be the more abundant. At the same time I admit that it calls for discernment, so as not to compromise by ill-advised adventures enterprises that are serious and of durable benefit. The

DEVELOPMENT OF OUR FOREIGN TRADE

has not escaped the watchful zeal of the Government. Some persons may have deemed excessive the sacrifices that the ministry demands from the country for the encouragement of ocean lines that would make Canada preferred as the route between Europe and the East. I am even tempted to say that enough has not yet been done in this way, when I observe the interest manifested by other nations at the bold position that Canada has taken in the commercial movement of the world. Not later than yesterday I heard an important New York business man loudly complain that, by its apathy, the American Government was allowing Canada to take a formidable position in the maritime trade of the Pacific. Could a more flattering eulogy be passed on the Government than that which is implied by such expressions of approbation on the part of a people of 60,000,000 inhabitants?

PERSONAL THANKS.

But, gentlemen, I must bring my remarks to a close. I fear that I have already passed the limits of your indulgence. I thank you most cordially for the warm and hearty welcome that you have given me, nor shall I ever forget that it imposes duties on me as well as gratitude. You have associated with myself the name of my wife in the address of welcome that you presented to me. I have been touched with this mark of esteem for her who has a right to share my joys as she shares my sorrows. It gives me pleasure to assure you that it is to her assiduous care, to her unfailing solicitude, that I owe, in a large measure, my recovery. Besides, gentlemen, has she not some right to your sympathies for having demonstrated in a practical and conclusive manner that which I have so often urged, that in Canada the two nationalities united, can, if they choose, constitute a partnership which has all the elements of solidity? And now that we are about to separate, I would ask you to communicate to your friends the words of affection and good will that I have had the pleasure of addressing to you this evening. Tell them, above all, that now that I am once more strong and in good condition, I am more than ever at their disposal. My services are theirs to command. To be useful to them and to serve our common country, that is my sincere and ardent wish—a wish that I shall ever entertain, so long as you favor me with your confidence and your devotion.

Three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Chapleau, Mrs. Chapleau, Ald. Jeannotte, and the Queen, and the gathering then dispersed.

